

## Objectives of a Research Process

A research process includes these objectives:

- recognizing the need for information
- accurate information is the basis for intelligent decision making
- helps when formulating appropriate research questions, such as "What is the topic?"
- can define focus and timeline -- "Do I have enough time to find the appropriate information on my topic?"
- save time by searching effectively
- create better quality papers

You will learn from a research process that:

- there is a search strategy that can be efficient, productive, effective (such as time spent) and result in quality
- there are print and electronic sources used to search, such as the library's online catalog; the Web, especially Web directories and engines; footnotes and bibliographies; paper and electronic indexes; full-text databases; and subject guides, usually developed by librarians or other authorities in the subject field
- there are types of information sources used in the research process, including books and journals, and secondary and primary sources
- there are search commands to improve the process, such as employing Boolean logic, and other available limiters, etc.